GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1967
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2008
IMPORT OF STEEL
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has become a net importer of steel over the last few years;

(b) if so, the quantum of steel imported during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether India is likely to import 50 MT of steel in the next few years due to growth in demand for steel; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand particularly against the objectives set in New Steel Policy?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. India has become a net importer of steel in 2007-08 and this trend continues in 2008-09.

(b) The table below shows import of total finished steel in the country during the last three years and the current year (April to November, 2008):-

Year Import of Total Finished Steel (mt)

2005-06 4.31

2006-07 4.93

2007-08 6.92

April to Nov. 2008 3.80

Source: Joint Plant Committee; =provisional

(c) As per the Report of the Working Group on Steel Industry for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) prepared in December 2006, the demand of steel in the country is estimated to reach 70.34 million tonnes and the supply of steel in the country is estimated to reach 80.23 million tonnes by 2012. However, as per the latest estimates, the domestic production of steel is likely to reach a level of 124.06 million tonnes by 2011-12.

(d) In order to promote the domestic steel industry and to meet the projected demand, the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG), under the chairmanship of Secretary(Steel), to monitor and coordinate the issues concerning major steel investments in the country related to infrastructure, raw material supply, environmental clearance and other resource constraints.